

Texas Company To Provide Waste-to-Energy Boiler to Sweden

A subsidiary of Texas company McDermott, Babcock and Wilcox Vølund, was recently awarded a \$70 million contract to design and supply a waste-to-energy boiler for a new power plant in Helsingborg, Sweden. This 67 megawatt combined power and heat plant will be able to burn approximately 220,000 tons of waste per year.

Swedish Giant ABB Boosts its Smart Grid Business With \$1 Billion Purchase of U.S. Firm Ventyx

Power and automation company ABB is paying more than \$1 billion to acquire Atlanta-based Ventyx from Vista Equity Partners, in order to provide software to manage energy networks. ABB will integrate its existing network management businesses with Ventyx offices in the U.S. and abroad. Combining Ventyx's suite with ABB systems will give energy companies, utilities and industrial customers a single supplier for enterprise-wide IT platforms and power automation systems. Ventyx operates in more than 40 countries. Its customers include power utilities in the U.S. and Europe, as well as industrial businesses. It employs 900 people and reported 2009 revenues of about \$250 million.

Ageratec and E3 Energy Partners Develop New Biofuels System

Swedish biodiesel technology provider Ageratec and Seattle-based engineering bureau E3 Energy Partners have developed a new biodiesel system capable of processing virgin and high Free Fatty Acid feedstock. This new technology targets fats, oils and greases to stop them from clogging sewer systems. The technology can also process byproducts from soy bean oil refining and ethanol production, thus balancing food vs. fuel.

IBM Partners with Royal Institute of Technology To Make Traffic Greener

IBM is already working with the City of Stockholm to monitor traffic flows and reduce congestion. In April, IBM and the Sweden's Royal Institute of Technology started a more ambitious project to gather instant satellite information on 1,500 cabs, delivery trucks, traffic sensors, weather and pollution monitors to give residents real-time information on traffic flows so they lower their carbon footprint with wiser commuting choices.

Skanska Brings LEED to Sweden

Swedish construction company Skanska, the sixth largest contractor in the U.S., real estate company Vasakronan, and a major shopping mall are among those in Sweden now following the LEED model. Skanska will be responsible for the first public-private partnership to target the LEED Gold Certificate, development and construction of the New Karolinska University hospital, outside Stockholm. Karolinska is a world-renowned medical research facility, and gives out the Nobel Prize for medicine.

Sweden To Be the World's First Fossil-Free Economy?

A leading U.S. non-profit, Alliance to Save Energy, has designated Sweden as the European continent's energy efficiency "visionary" in recognition of Sweden as one of the world's leading nations on energy efficiency, and its national goal to be the world's first oil-free economy. Sweden is making progress on that goal, with renewables accounting for 43% of energy end-use, the highest in the EU; and having passed the tipping point in 2009 of having bioenergy account for a larger share of energy consumption (31.7%) than oil (30.8%).

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